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architects as one of the best examples of a gentleman's house of the Colonial period.

The edition is limited, and subscriptions should be made at once. The subscription will assure to each purchaser a work of historical and professional value, and will aid in the collection of a fund in honor of a past President of the Institute, largely through whose efforts the Octagon property came into the Institute's possession; a fund, the purpose of which is to preserve the property in its original state to future generations.

It is in this interesting historical building the American Federation of Arts has its main office.

## BOOK REVIEWS

**MONA LISA, A MONOGRAPH BY JOHN R. EYRE.** Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, H. Grevel & Co., London, Publishers.

This monograph was written in consequence of the deliberate opinion expressed by a great connoisseur to the effect that the Isleworth Mona Lisa can be genuinely ascribed to da Vinci.

At the outset, the author states, it appeared almost hopeless to shake the traditions of four centuries, which had decreed that the Louvre version was the one and only version of the portrait. The result of his investigation, however, he believes to prove incontrovertibly the validity of the second painting.

The Isleworth Mona Lisa was purchased by an Englishman in Italy over one hundred years ago, as an original masterpiece of Leonardo's and for over a hundred years hung in an old manor house in Somerset. It was, however, covered so by dirt and varnish that all its intrinsic beauty was completely hidden. And thus it came into the possession of the present owner. It was not until it was thoroughly cleaned that its beauty became manifest, and that there seemed to be sufficient reason to believe it to be an original masterpiece.

The question of authorization has been carefully studied and contemporaneous evidence has been brought to bear upon the subject with convincing force. This is the more interesting to American art lovers at the present time, as owing to the dangers

of the war the picture has been brought to this country and is now out of harm's way in safe keeping in the Boston Museum of Fine Arts.

**GREEK, ETRUSCAN AND ROMAN BRONZES.** BY GISELA M. A. RICHTER, Litt.D., Assistant Curator, Department of Classical Art, Metropolitan Museum of Art. Being a catalogue of the classical bronzes in the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Metropolitan Museum of Art, Publishers. Price \$5.00 net.

This volume is a quarto of over 500 pages bound in paper covers and illustrated by a large number of cuts in the text, every object of importance being reproduced, as well as numerous full page plates.

Under every item in this catalogue are given the date of its acquisition, the provenance when known, and reference to any publication of it. The material has been divided into two principal classes: first, Statues, Statuettes and Reliefs; second, Implements and Utensils. The first class includes the works in which the chief interest is their sculptural quality; the second comprises the manifold implements made by the ancients in bronze.

In the various sections the material has been arranged as far as possible chronologically. Each section is preceded by a brief introductory note with reference to the chief books or articles dealing with the subject.

In the introduction the technical processes of bronze-working in antiquity, and the origin of the ancient patina, have been discussed at considerable length.

This is really a sumptuous and extremely valuable publication.

**OLD ENGLISH MANSIONS.** Special number of the International Studio, spring, 1915. John Lane Company, New York and London, Publishers. Price \$3.00 net.

There are sixty full page plates in this volume giving pictures of old English mansions as pictured by C. J. Richardson, J. D. Harding, Joseph Nash, H. Shaw and others. The introductory text is by Alfred Yockney. The book is edited by Charles Holme.

To architects and also to home builders as well as those interested aesthetically in all manner of expressions of art, this book will be found of interest.